Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 KABUL 06429 01 OF 02 291212Z

46
ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NEAE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00

PM-03 SP-02 L-01 INR-05 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PRS-01

SSC-01 IO-03 OMB-01 EB-03 EUR-08 /055 W
---------- 032144
O R 290915Z SEP 75
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4487
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 KABUL 6429

LIMDIS

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, AF
SUBJECT: MAJOR SHAKE-UP IN AFGHAN CABINET

REF: KABUL 5614 AND 5766 AND 5175

1. SUMMARY: GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN (GOA HAS ANNOUNCED SIX NEW CABINET APPOINTMENTS. APPOINTMENTS SEEM TO REFLECT INCREASED CONFIDENCE OF PRESIDENT DAOUD IN HIS OWN POWER TO MAKE CHANGES. THE NEW APPOINTMENTS ALSO SEEM TO BRING MORE COMPETENCE TO THE GOA. IF THERE IS ANY IDEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE, IT IS A TREND AWAY FROM "THE LEFT." END SUMMARY

2. RADIO KABUL EVENING SEPTEMBER 27 ANNOUNCED THE FOLLOW-ING MAJOR GOA CABINET CHANGES:

A) MINISTER OF FINANCE ADBULLELLAH HAS BEEN GIVEN
CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KABUL 06429 01 OF 02 291212Z

ADDITIONAL TITLE "SECOND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER;"

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

B) FAIZ MOHAMMAD, WHO HAS BEEN MINISTER OF INTERIOR SINCE THE 1973 COUP, HAS BEEN NAMED MINISTER OF FRONTIERS AFFAIRS;

C) ADDUL QADIR (WHO EARLIER USED THE SURNAME "NUGQKTANI"), FORMERLY COMMANDANT OF THE POLICE-GENDARMERIE, HAS BEEN MADE MINISTER OF INTERIOR;

D) ADBUL TAWAB ASEFI, WHO HAS BEEN GOVERNOR OF HERAT, NAMED MINISTER OF MINES AND INDUSTRIES;

E) AZIZULLAH WASEFI, WHO HAS BEEN GOVERNOR OF NANGARHAR, NAMED MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE TO REPLACE GHULAM JAILANI BAKHTARI;

F) ENG. ADBUL KARIM ATTAYEE, UNTIL NOW PRESIDENT OF RADIO AFGHANISTAN, NAMED MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS.

3. STRENGTHENING OF CABINET. MOST NOTABLE ABOUT THE NEW CABINET IS THE ADDED STRENGTH THE CHANGES BRING TO THAT BODY. TWO LONG VACANT POSITIONS, FRONTIERS AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS, HAVE AT LAST BEEN FILLED. A FULL TIME MINES AND INDUSTRIES MINISTER ALSO HAS BEEN NAMED TO REPLACE MINISTER OF MINES AND INDUSTRIES, AND, EDUCATION KAYUM, WHO IN HOLDING TWG SUCH DISTINCT PORTFOLIOS FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO DO JUSTICE TO EITHER. ALTHOUGH FINANCE MINISTER ADDULELLAH HAS BEEN SUBJECT TO "MIXED REVIEWS" AS TO PERFORMANCE AS MINISTER, HIS CLOSE PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP TO DAOUD BRINGS CONSIDERABLE STRENGTH TO THE NEWLY-FILLED "SECOND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER" POSITION. ALTHOUGH FAIZ MOHAMMAD'S MOVE FROM INTERIOR TO FRONTIERS AFFAIRS MIGHT BE SEEN AS A "DEMOTION", HIS NEW JOB IS ONE WHICH IS NEVERTHELESS SIGNIFICANT AND COULD BECOME EVEN MORE SO GIVEN DAOUD'S
CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

ATTITUDES TOWARD PUSHTUN AND BALUCH "BROTHERS" LIVING ACROSS BORDER IN PAKISTAN AND GOA TEMPTATIONS
TO BECOME MORE DEEPLY INVOLVED IN AFFAIRS OF THESE PEOPLES. FAIZ MOHAMMAD'S SUCCESSOR AT INTERIOR, QADIR (NURISTANI), WHO HAS LONG BEEN DESCRIBED BY SOME RUMORS AS MOHAMMAD'S BITTER RIVAL, IS A MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE WHICH CAME TO POWER WITH DAOUD. QADIR HAS DEMONSTRATED TOUGHNESS IN HIS ROLE AS POLICE COMMANDANT. HE MAY BE

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

COUNTED ON TO BRING TO INTERIOR A VIGOR, EVEN A
RUTHLESSNESS, WHICH BEFITS THE PRESIDENTIAL MOOD
IN THESE DAYS AFTER THE PANJSHIR INSURGENCY.
(COMMENT: THERE IS SOME POSSIBILITY THAT FAIZ
MOHAMMAD LOST PRESIDENTIAL CONFIDENCE AFTER THE
FAILURE OF THE INTERIOR MINISTRY TO PREDICT
AND SUBSEQUENTLY TO CONTROL THE PANJSHIR VIO-
LENCE.)

4. LEFT-RIGHT ORIENTATION. IN TERMS OF INNER
CIRCLE POLITICS, THAT IS THE POLITICS OF THOSE
CLOSEST TO DAOUD WHO ARE PERSONAL ASSOCIATES
AS WELL AS OFFICIAL OFFICE HOLDERS, THE RAISING
OF ADBULELLAH TO A POINT OF BEING A LIKELY SUC-
CESSOR TO DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SHARQ IS SEEN
BY SOME AS A BLOW AGAINST SHARQ HIMSELF. THE
DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, NUMBERED ALONG WITH FAIZ
MOHAMMAD AND EX-AGRICULTURE MINISTER BAKHTARI
AS LEADING "LEFTISTS", HAS BEEN RUMORED AS THE
CENTRAL FIGURE IN A FACTION VIGOROUSLY OPPOSED
BY SUCH POWERFUL PERSONS AS CENTRAL CORPS COM-
MANDER HAIDER, ADBULELLAH, ANDNPOLICE COMMANDANT
ABDUL QADIR (NURISTANI), NOW NAMED MINISTER OF
INTERIOR. EARLIER LOWER LEVEL BUREAUCRATIC
SHIFTS HAD INDICATED EROSION OF SHARQ'S POSITION.
ABDUL GHIAS MUKHAMEL, NUMBER THREE IN THE HEALTH
MINISTRY AND A STRONG SHARQ SUPPORTER WAS TRANS-
FERRED TO A JOB IN THE REMOTE PAKTIA REGION
EARLIER THIS SUMMER. PERHAPS NOT COINCIDENTALLH
MUKHAMEL'S BROTHER WAS RELIEVED OF HIS POST AS
DEPUTY MINISTER OF FRONTIERS AFFAIRS SEPT. 24.
CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 KABUL 06429 01 OF 02 291212Z

(COMMENT: HASSAN SHARQ HOWEVER HAS BEEN A
DAOUD INTIMATE FOR TWO DECADES AND WE DOUBT
WHETHER HIS CURRENT POLITICAL PROBLEMS REPRE-
SENT HIS PROSPECTIVE TOTAL REMOVAL FROM THE
AFGHAN POLITICAL SCENE. ONE THEORY EXPRESSED
HERE WAS THAT ADBULELLAH'S "EVELATION"
MIGHT HAVE BEEN IN FACT DESIGNED TO REMOVE HIM
FROM DAY-TO-DAY CONTROL OF THE FINANCE MINISTRY
IN ORDER TO ALLOW MORE ABLE TECHNICAL MANAGERS

TO CONTROL AFFAIRS. WHATEVER THE OUTCOME OF
SHARQ'S CURRENT POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES, IT SEEM
CERTAIN HE WILL IN THE SHORT RUN FIND HIS POWER
DIMINISHED AND THAT THE CABINET IN WHICH HE
SERVES IS HARDLY A CONGENIAL BODY FOR HIM.)

5. TECHNICAL COMPETENCE. ABDUL TAWAB ASEFI,
GOVERNOR OF HERAT,A CORNELL GRADUATE WHO SERVED

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

EARLIER AS VICE PRESIDENT OF THE HELMAND VALLEY
AUTHORITY, APPEARS TO BE AN EXCELLENT CHOICE FOR
MINES AND INDUSTRIES. HE IS A DYNAMIC AND INTEL-
LIGENT MAN WITH EXCELLENT BUREAUCRATIC SKILLS.
NANGARHAR GOVERNOR WASEFI, REPLACING THE DIFFICULT
AND INEFFECTUAL GHULAM JAILANI BAKHTARI AT
ARICULTURE, IS LESS KNOWN TO US BUT HE APPEARS
A SOLID MEMBER OF THE AFGHAN BUREAUCRACY.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KABUL 06429 02 OF 02 291424Z

46
ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NEAE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00

PM-03 SP-02 L-01 INR-05 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PRS-01

SSC-01 IO-03 OMB-01 EB-03 EUR-08 /055 W
---------- 033660
O R 290915Z SEP 75
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4488
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 KABUL 6429
LIMDIS
6. COMMENT: DAOUD'S TACTICS. THESE NEW
APPOINTMENTS CONSTITUTE THE LARGEST CHANGE
IN GOA LEADERSHIP SINCE THE JULY 1973 COUP.
THE CABINET SHIFTS APPEAR TO US, AND WE BELIEVE WILL
APPEAR TO AFGHAN PUBLIC, TO SIGNAL DIMUNITION
OF INFLUENCE OF "LEFTISTS" IN THE GOVERNMENT (I.E.
PERSONS WHO WISH TO GO FURTHER THAN DAOUD IN
NATIONALIZATION AND CLOSE ASSOCIATION WITH
SOVIET SOLUTIONS TO DEVELOPMENTAL PROBLEMS).
THE PATTERN OF DISMISSING OR MOVING MEN OF
THIS STRIPE TO POSITIONS OF LESS IMPORTANCE
WHILE MOVING IN MEN OF TESTEF LOYALTY OR COM-
PETENCE IS ONE WE HAVE DISCERNED IN RECENT LOWER
LEVEL PERSONNEL SHIFTS (REFTELS). BEFORE THE

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

SEPTEMBER 27 MASS CHANGES, DAOUD SEEMED TO
PERFER "SALAMI TACTICS" OVER DRAMATIC MOVES
THAT MIGHT COALESCE OPPOSITION. DEPARTURE FROM
THIS POLICY MAY INDICATE DAOUD'S CONFIDENCE IN
HIS ABILITY TO DEAL WITH RIVALS WITHIN THE
GOVERNMENT, AND REFLECT A DEFINITE SENSE OF
URGENCY BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE CHALLENGE OF
THE PANJSHIR AND RELATED INSURGENCIES. THE
CONFIDENTIAL

REMOVAL OR DEMOTION OF PROMINENT "LEFTISTS"
MAY ALSO BE INTENDED AS A GESTURE TOWARD
ISLAMIC CONSERVATIVES OPPOSED TO CLOSE RELATIONS
WITH THE "GODLESS" SOVIET UNION.
CURRAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CABINET, REORGANIZATIONS, PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975KABUL06429
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750336-1027
From: KABUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975096/aaaaaewi.tel
Line Count: 242
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 75 KABUL 5614
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <26 NOV 2003 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MAJOR SHAKE-UP IN AFGHAN CABINET
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, AF, (MOHAMMAD, FAIZ), (QADIR, ADDUL), (ASEFI, TAWAB ADBUL), (WASEFI, AZIZULLAH), (ATTAYEE, ADBUL KARIM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006